

For Bridgeport and vicinity: Unsettled tonight; Friday fair, colder.

The Bridgeport Times

and Evening Farmer

"Smatter Pop"

The Times has obtained for its readers, the famous "Smatter Pop" comic cartoon. It will appear in this newspaper daily. See Page 8.

VOL. 54—NO. 28—EST. 1790

BRIDGEPORT, CONN., FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1918

PRICE TWO CENTS

BERLIN SAYS RIOTS ARE OVER

HUNS TO TORTURE AMERICAN PRISONERS VICTIMIZED CONCERN FOR \$60,000

1 POLICEMAN LOST LIFE WHEN STRIKERS TRIED TO HALT STREET CARS

BAY STATE FIRM HIT HARD BY WIDOW

Lost \$60,000 to Bridgeport "Cassie Chadwick"—Freyler a Victim.

Mrs. Charles T. Chapman, Bridgeport's "Cassie Chadwick" is being sought by the legal representatives of the Empire Trust Company, New York, who have protested her note for \$104,000, and by the Hibbard Company, of Worcester, Mass., to whom, it is said, she owes \$60,000. It also developed today that she owes Frederick Freyler, proprietor of the Fairfield Restaurant, \$2,000 which she borrowed on notes.

Attorney John Smith, representing Margaret Graham, Mrs. Chapman's maid, has applied to Prosecuting Attorney Morehouse, of Stratford, for a warrant for the arrest of Mrs. Chapman on a charge of embezzlement. Attorney De Forest, representing Miss Carrie Bunnell, is also about to take action, but when seen this morning refused to say what steps he would take to recover the \$10,000 which his client lost.

When the exclusive story carried by The Times yesterday became circulated there was considerable excitement among the business people of Bridgeport, few of whom have escaped the swindles of the woman. The D. M. Reed Co. was heavily hit, while many other stores in the city reports having the name of Mrs. Chapman (Continued on Page Ten.)

HOME GUARDS TO PATROL BRIDGES IN CONNECTICUT

Hartford, Feb. 1.—Details of Home Guard troops have been called out to patrol the Highway bridges at the mouths of the Housatonic and Connecticut rivers, according to a brief announcement made public today by State Highway Commissioner C. J. Bennett through the Connecticut State Council of Defense. Announcement of the order follows: "It has been thought advisable by the State Highway Commissioner and the Military Emergency Board to place guards for the protection of two main highway bridges, namely, the Washington bridge at the mouth of the Housatonic river and the old Saybrook-Lyme bridge, at the mouth of the Connecticut. "From time to time, it will be necessary for the guards to stop automobiles preparing to cross these two bridges, particularly at night. The guards have been instructed to be courteous in their dealings with the public."

HUN HELMET TAKEN BY LOCAL BOY AT CAMBRAI

Three Bridgeport soldiers "mixed it" with the Huns in the recent engagement at Cambrai when American engineers dropped their picks and shovels and took on the Boches with rifles and fists. One of them, "Bill" Marvin, of 529 Union avenue, accounted for at least one Boche and has sent home evidence to prove it. At the Custom House there arrived yesterday, consigned to "Bill's" brother, Myron, a German helmet. A letter that preceded the helmet informed Myron that "Bill" had removed a German head therefrom shortly after the battle at Cambrai. As will be remembered, the Cambrai engagement was practically the

POLAND TO WAR UPON RUSSIANS

Bolsheviki and Latest Foe Have Their First Clash.

London, Feb. 1.—News has reached Kiev from Minsk that the Polish legion has declared war against the Bolsheviki, a Reuters dispatch from Petrograd says: The report of the Polish legion's action also is forwarded by the Petrograd correspondent of the Exchange Telegraph Co. who says that, according to a telegram from Minsk, the Bolsheviki have attacked a Polish division under Gen. Ostapovich. Heavy fighting occurred. The Polish commander-in-chief telegraphed the commander on the western front that a state of war existed between the Polish army and the Bolsheviki.

In the ancient Tartar capital of Bakhichan, representatives of the Crimean Tartars have held a constituent assembly and issued a declaration of the establishment of an autonomous Crimean republic. The entire population of the Crimea and the soldiers and workmen's deputies are said to have acknowledged the new republic. An epidemic has broken out in Crimea.

APRIL TO BRING BUSINESS HOURS BACK TO NORMAL

Bridgeport's merchants, saloonkeepers and amusement house managers will fall back to their normal schedule of hours on or about April 15, according to Fuel Administrator Carl F. Siemon, who today said the orders would not prevail when the days are longer and heat is no longer needed in these establishments. The curtailing of hours has caused great financial losses to practically every place of business effected by the fuel conservation orders. Saloonkeepers report a falling off of amounts ranging from \$100 to \$800 in the receipts of last week, while the hour's business lost by the dry goods merchants each day has resulted in proportionate losses.

NATURALIZATIONS HOLD UP TRIAL OF R. R. DAMAGE CASE

Trial of the suit of Lillian N. Sherwood of Fairfield against the New York, New Haven & Hartford Railroad Co. for damages of \$15,000 for injuries, received in June, 1916, when she was struck by a lantern which fell from a passing train will be resumed February 12. Next week the time of the court will be taken up with naturalization petitions, about 300 new applications coming before the court. About 100 of these have been continued from other sessions for various reasons.

CZERNIN ASSURED WILSON AUSTRIANS ARE ON THE LEVEL

London, Feb. 1.—It is known positively, according to a dispatch from Bern to the Daily Mail, that Count Czernin, the Austro-Hungarian foreign minister, through private intermediaries, has sent a message after message to President Wilson, assuring him of the sincerity and guilelessness of Austrian diplomacy.

JAIL SOCIALISTS FOR HAMPERING ARMY DRAFT LAW

Cleveland, Feb. 1.—C. E. Rutherford, Socialist candidate for mayor of Cleveland; Alfred Wagenknecht, state secretary; and Charles Baker, state organizer of the Socialist party, convicted in the federal court of hampering the army draft law, were taken to Canton, O., today, to serve a one year sentence in the workhouse.

CITY'S COAL SUPPLY IS GROWING

Situation More Optimistic and Board Prays for Good Weather to Continue.

Bridgeport's coal situation, both on the domestic and industrial sides, is beginning to get relief and is better than it has been at any time since December 1. This city has three days' supply on hand, but the danger point has not been passed. It is reported that the Bassick Co., employing several hundred men, would have to lay off its employees if its coal supply was not replenished today.

The situation does not cease to be critical, because a storm would raise havoc with shipments scheduled to arrive here within the next few days. Fuel Administrator Carl F. Siemon has received more reports of loading barges and cars in the last few days than at any time during the last month.

Sworn statements revealing the fact that Bridgeport's supply of hard coal fell off 140,000 tons during the last year were released for publication today by Administrator Siemon. The figures show that the city's normal yearly consumption is 350,000 tons and during the year 210,338 tons were received. The arrival of approximately 2,500 tons of hard coal yesterday and today and the promise of further shipments have greatly relieved the domestic situation. The bituminous situation shows little change.

Administrator Siemon has been represented by State Administrator Russell for making appeals direct to Washington instead of through his office.

It started over Siemon's request to the government for an immediate supply of soft coal for the Bridgeport Gas Light Co. The message sent Wednesday was as follows: "Situation in Bridgeport is so critical that I am wiring you direct instead of through Russell. Bridgeport Gas Light Co. has only four days supply ahead. Can you not arrange to have 10 or 20 cars shipped in for their immediate need? I have done all I possibly can do. Won't you please wire me?" The message had the desired effect as 20 railroads arrived yesterday. The shipment was taken from the surplus supply of the New Haven railroad at the government's demand.

KING ALFONSO TO PROTEST SINKING OF STR. GIRALDE

Madrid, Feb. 1.—The cabinet met yesterday under the presidency of King Alfonso and decided to send a strong protest to Germany, demanding reparation to Spain for the sinking of the steamer Giralda. The note will not be sent through Prince von Rath, the German ambassador here, but will be telegraphed direct to the Spanish ambassador in Berlin.

SEIZURE OF R. R. COAL IS URGED

Labor Leader Declares New Haven Is Hoarding 500,000 Tons.

Boston, Feb. 1.—Edward P. McGrady, president of the Boston Central Labor union, last night sent a telegram to President Wilson charging that the New York, New Haven & Hartford railroad was hoarding more than 500,000 tons of surplus coal and asking that some of this supply be seized for essential industries.

New England today was still conserving its scant supply of coal and carefully distributing the small amounts that arrived by rail and water with the prospect that measures taken by the fuel administration would not bring relief until the middle of next week. In Boston dealers were not allowed to deliver coal to office buildings, stores and factories, an order to this effect which expired this morning having been extended for two days by the city committee.

WEALTHY WOMEN GAMBLERS CARRY DOGS FOR LUCK

New York, Feb. 1.—Luxurious gambling establishments known to be frequented by wealthy women and located in fashionable residential sections of the city are to be investigated through taking of testimony in open court sessions, it was announced today by the district attorney's office. The inquiry is expected to begin next week.

Information in the prosecutor's possession, according to an assistant attorney, shows that the wife of one prominent New Yorker lost \$10,000 within two hours in one of these places. On the upper west side there are more than 40 splendidly appointed gambling places to which women motor every afternoon, taking their pedigreed dogs with them as mascots, and are served with tea and often stronger beverages while they engage in games of chance, according to the district attorney's information. Evidence that the proprietors of these houses are guilty of crooked practices in dealing with the patrons will be adduced at the inquiry, it was said.

"Pedigreed dogs," Assistant District Attorney Smith declared, "are said to be regarded as mascots by the feminine gamblers. The story reaching me today is that the women often bet their heads off if they think their pets are mascotting successfully against the mascotting of another woman's dog."

ICE FREES 20,000 TONS

Vineyard Haven, Mass., Feb. 1.—Four tugs towing 11 barges loaded with 20,000 tons of coal for Boston and nearby points left here today, after being held in port by ice since Sunday. The fleet is due in Boston tomorrow.

EVACUATION OF RUSSIAN FRONT STILL GOES ON

Amsterdam, Feb. 1.—A war correspondent of the Dusseldorf Nachrichten reports that the portions of the Russian front which have been entirely evacuated are growing in extent. The trenches are falling to pieces. The posts which were used for wire entanglements are being burned as firewood. The disbanding of some military units is in progress south of the Pripiet region.

Artillerymen are selling their horses, the correspondent says. Soldiers guarding the road to Lutsk no longer demand passports, but require the payment of a toll of 20 roubles for every vehicle.

GERMANS DETAIN FIVE AMERICANS LEAVING BELGIUM

Washington, Feb. 1.—Five Americans in Belgium have been denied by the German authorities the right to leave that country and go into Holland. Inquiry into the detention is made. The case is the first of its kind reported to the State Department and it is believed that the German authorities in Belgium, under the impression that Germans are detained in the United States, have taken the action as a retaliatory measure.

MISSISSIPPI BOATS CLING TO BANKS TO ESCAPE FLOES

Memphis, Feb. 1.—Gorge ice from the jam at Richardson's Landing, 59 miles above this city, which began moving here early this morning was moving down the Mississippi river rapidly today with craft of all kinds hugging the banks in sheltered anchorages. The river here rose about three feet overnight to a stage of 14.5 feet.

PRESIDENT AND DOMINANT PARTY LEADERS CONFER

Washington, Feb. 1.—At a conference with a dozen Republican and Democratic senators whom he summoned to the White House today President Wilson reiterated his opposition to the pending bills to create a super war cabinet and a director of munitions, contending that they would hamper him in the conduct of the war and that they were unnecessary.

CAPTURED TO STAND 4 DAYS

No Food or Rest for Yankees Who Fall Into Hands of German Troops.

With the American Army in France, Thursday, Jan. 31.—(By The Associated Press)—All American prisoners captured by the Germans are to be kept in cages four days without food and compelled to stand all the time. At the end of the four-day period only small quantities of food are to be given.

American officers at the front have come into possession of documents said to have been taken from Germans opposite our positions and which deal with the treatment to be accorded captives. The documents say all prisoners, including commissioned prisoners, including commissioned bakers, are to be subjected to the same tortures.

Although definite information on the point is lacking, some American officers today expressed the belief that the order resulted from the difficulties the Germans probably found in extracting information from the first American prisoners captured in November. Such treatment of prisoners, it is felt, could be designed only to make them give up military information.

BOARD OF RELIEF HAS BIG RUSH OF PROPERTY OWNERS

More than 100 property owners greeted the Board of Relief during the first hour of its first session in the tax commissioners' office today and protested against their increased property valuations. The office was filled all day and it is estimated that more than 300 applications for reductions were made. The board will hold another meeting tomorrow.

EL PASO REPORTS NEW REVOLT IN SONORA DISTRICT

El Paso, Tex., Feb. 1.—Rumors of a new movement against the Mexican government in the state of Sonora were current here today. Jose Obregon, a brother of Gen. Alvaro Obregon, former minister of war, is said to be the leader of the new movement, which it is reported, has been joined by a large number of Yaqui Indians.

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German Newspaper Admits 180,000 Workers Walked Out—Dozen Strikers Injured in Street Fighting and Women Participated—Say Scheidemann Plays Trotzky's Game.

Amsterdam, Feb. 1.—Reports from Berlin, received in this city today admit that serious riots took place in the city yesterday. One policeman was killed, another seriously injured and a dozen strikers were hurt. The most serious riot of the day occurred in the northwestern part of Berlin in which the policeman was killed.

Assisted by women, mobs of strikers attempted to tie up all street car traffic when they were charged by the police and fighting ensued. There were minor disturbances, Berlin admits, in other suburbs of the city, but the press asserts that the outbreaks in Berlin have reached a climax and the strike movement is integrating.

YANKEE PLATOON SHOWED BRAVERY IN GERMAN RAID

With the American Army in France, Thursday, Jan. 31.—(By The Associated Press)—Conditions were quiet on the American sector all day today because of the fog, which tonight showed no sign of abating. Beyond a few shots from both sides at registered targets there was very little artillery firing. There was virtually no infantry activity.

Additional details of yesterday's raid show only the heroism of the platoon in the trenches nearest the listening post prevented the enemy from entering the trenches and, perhaps, capturing prisoners.

As soon as the barrage fire lifted the platoon came out of its dugouts and stepped to the firing platforms. Their rifle fire held off a superior number of Germans who tried to approach. When the enemy saw the Americans were determined to hold the position they withdrew into the fog. Later several bloody enemy rifles and other equipment were found beyond the American position.

The trade unions are declining to pay out strike benefits. As an indication of the lack of centralized direction, it is said that only a few of the big plants of Berlin were forced to suspend operations completely.

The governing board of the Social Democratic party announced yesterday that it had not taken over the management of the strike. The trade unions, through the general commission, also disclaimed responsibility. (Continued on Page 10)

TOTES REVOLVER AND FLASHLIGHT, GETS 4 MONTHS

Harris M. Gares, 32, of Lynn, Mass., arrested last night by Patrolman Thomas Burns, on Water street and charged with carrying concealed weapons, today was fined \$1 and costs and given a sentence of four months in jail by Judge Wilder in the city court. When arrested Gares had in his possession a .38 calibre revolver and a flashlight. He could give no satisfactory reason for having them.

BERNARD BARUCH MAY TAKE POST LEFT BY WILLARD

Washington, Feb. 1.—Appointment of Bernard M. Baruch as chairman of the war industry board to succeed Daniel Willard, resigned, appeared probable today. Mr. Baruch is a member of the board and has been in charge of the purchase of raw materials.

DIVERT COAL TO USE OF VESSELS TIED UP IN ICE

St. Louis, Feb. 1.—More than 1,000 tons of coal from mines in Tennessee was rushed to various points along the Mississippi river today to be used by boats caught in the ice floe that for several days has swept down stream. Orders diverting the coal were issued by the St. Louis Fuel Committee.

GENERAL STRIKE FOR THREE DAYS SWEEPS MUNICH

London, Feb. 1.—A three-day strike has been declared in Munich, according to a German News dispatch from Amsterdam today.